

Focus on 5th



News and Events in the 5th Grade
November 29, 2010
www.op97.org

Important Dates

Dec 8 - 10 Poinsettia Plant Pick-Up
Dec. 10 Math Test
Dec 17 Ethnic Fest

Dear Families,

Since many students have started wearing boots to school they in turn are forgetting their gym shoes at home. If you have them, it may be a good idea to send a pair of extra gym shoes to keep in their locker for gym class.

Ethnic Fest 2010 – A 5th Grade Holiday Celebration!

Megan Loutfi sent out the following email last week asking for families to begin to think about what they could contribute to the 5th grade Ethnic Fest Holiday Celebration on December 17. You know that really delicious recipe – the one that reminds you and your family of your special holiday celebrations? Something from your ethnic background or perhaps the place your family is from, or maybe just from Grandma's recipe box?

Well, make (or buy) an extra batch for the 5th graders of Holmes Elementary – as we join together to celebrate the expansive and amazing diversity of our wonderful kids!

When: Friday, December 17, 2010, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

What: A bite-sized batch of your special holiday food for 25 or so. Please no nuts due to allergies.

Where: Send to school that day with your child, or deliver to the Multipurpose room by 1:00 p.m. The dish must be ready to serve; there is no way to heat at school. Please label the food by name and nationality, and put your name on any dishes that need to go home with your child.

Who: All 5th graders and any adults interested in joining us!

Contact Chris Koman (chrismark1@comcast.net, 708-524-2652, Katie's mom) or Megan Loutfi (meganloutfi@me.com, 708-948-7829, Rhia's mom) with questions.

SPECIALS

Spanish

Students have acted out and recorded the story with their groups. They are fantastic actors! They will be having an oral and written test next week on the story. Students can still read the story to someone for 10 extra points. <http://mpoleski.blogspot.com/p/quintofifth.html>

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack**
<http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>



Reading/Literature

This week we will be reading the Open Court story *If You Lived at the Time of the Revolution*. Students will be comparing and contrasting the opinions of the loyalists and the patriots. We will begin to work on a persuasive writing piece to go along with the story. The 2nd book report will be distributed to students and posted on the reading wiki on Wednesday, December 1st.

Math

Graded fractions unit tests were returned to students today. Please review the test with your child and sign if a signature has been requested. Students scoring below grade level (2 or less) on the test may correct their mistakes and have their tests regraded. This week we will be working on different methods for finding common denominators. This will prepare students for next week, when we will work on adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. We will have a quiz on common denominators this week and a short test on adding and subtracting fractions next Friday, December 10.

Science

As we continue with our variables unit, the students will be investigating planes. They will be making planes out of straws, rubber bands, popsicle sticks and propellers. After the planes are constructed, they will be testing them to see how far they will fly and experimenting with their plane systems to try and make them go further.

Social Studies

Presentations on explorers are due **Tuesday, December 7**. Students were given an assignment sheet in class before the break with nine presentation choices (including a free choice) and a rubric. These presentations should be completed at home, since we will not use class time for preparation.

This week we will continue our study of the thirteen colonies and will build a class bulletin board that illustrates the New England, Middle, and Southern Colonies and how each evolved using natural resources to build industries.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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